

City of Modesto: Parks, Recreation & Neighborhoods Department

History of Recycling

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Recycling 101

- When did it start?
- Who picked it up?
- How has it changed?
- What is AB939 and SB1016?
- What does it look like today?
- Where are we going?



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It all started in 1971!

- 1971 Cliff & Mary Humphrey – drop box at Tully/Roseburg
- 1972 Ecology Action (EA) – First **FREE VOLUNTARY WEEKLY** residential curbside recycling in the nation – glass bottles, cans, newspapers
- 1973 Buy-back centers were opened
- 1977 Curbside program expanded throughout Modesto & Turlock



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Recycling in the 1980's...

- 1982 EA “financially unable to continue”. City of Modesto took over and authorized franchised garbage haulers to pick up recycling.
- 1985 City of Modesto, Stanislaus County & WTE partnership, construction began
- 1986 Citizen’s Advisory Committee on Recycling (CACOR) established



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More 1980's ...

- 1988
 - California Integrated Waste Management Board established (CIWMB)
 - Curbside bucket pilot program began
 - 1,300 residences
 - 14,000 5-gallon buckets citywide
 - Covanta WTE began operation



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Still more 1980's ...

- 1989
 - AB939 enacted
 - 25% waste diverted from landfills by 1995
 - 50% waste diverted from landfills by 2000
 - Black garbage “toters” distributed for fully automated collection



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Recycling in 1990's ...

1991 Plastics 1&2 added to curbside buckets

1992

- Magazines added to curbside buckets
- HHW Facility began operation
- Earth Day in the Park established as an annual event

1993 Used oil added to curbside collection



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More 1990's ...

- 1994 Source Reduction & Recycling Element (SRRE)
 - Paper, Plastics, Glass, Metals, Yard Waste, Other Organics, Other Waste
 - 1990 Disposal rates
 - 23.41% paper
 - 24.54% yard waste
 - 22.77% other organics
 - 70.72% organic material



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1990's Continue...

1997

- Green “toters” rolled out
- Blue bags distributed
 - Plastics 1-7
 - Glass
 - Aluminum
 - Paper & cardboard
 - Magazines & phone books
- Gilton’s One Pass trucks rolled out



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Even more 1990's...

- 1997 Compost Facility began operations
- 1999
 - Community recycling bins
 - Bulky Item Program
 - Tire Amnesty Events



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A new millennium begins...

- 2000 Waste Generation Study
 - 28% Residential generation
 - 72% Non-Residential generation
 - Diversion Rate 61%
 - 17% Composted
 - 32% Recycled
 - 02% Source Reduction
 - 10% Waste to Energy



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2000's ...

- 2001 Food Waste
- 2002 – 2009 Cathode Ray Tube (CRT's)
- 2003 - 2008 Cell Phones
- 2005 Food & Organics Recycling Kitchen (FORK)



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More 2000's ...

2007 SB1016

- Disposal based reporting
- Target = 5.0 lbs/person/day

2007 Actual = 4.7 lbs/person/day

2008 Actual = 3.5 lbs/person/day



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Still More 2000's...

2008

- New grinder purchased for Compost Facility (\$602K)
- Paper & Cardboard added to green can



2009 Blue bags ended



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2010 Residential Recycling Picture...



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And Waste to Energy!



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Establish new programs?

Things to be considered...

- Goals established by state or federal agencies
- Current & upcoming legislature
- Volume and value of commodity
- Ease of collection/drop off
- Cost of collection/drop off
- Recycling market availability
- Benefits vs. environmental costs



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Where do we go from here?

- Mandatory business recycling?
 - AB32 Climate Change Scoping Plan
- Optional residential recycling bin?
- Multifamily recycling and/or organics?
- Fats, Oils, Grease (FOG)?
- C&D Ordinance?
- Other ideas?



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